

Amendments to Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of the claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) A reel clutch of a tape recorder, which is installed in a reel disc assembly mounted on a deck of a tape recorder and having a reel gear with a plurality of gear teeth formed along an outer circumference and a reel disc, for generating a torque to adjust the tension of a magnetic tape, thereby controlling the running speed of the magnetic tape, wherein the reel clutch comprises:

a plate spring positioned between the reel gear and the reel disc, the plate spring having a central portion and an outer rim; and

a stopper reel engaged with the reel disc, the stopper reel urging the central portion of the plate spring upward, so that the reel disc and the outer rim of the plate spring come into contact with each other to generate a torque by friction.

2. (previously presented) A reel clutch of a tape recorder which is installed in a reel disc assembly mounted on a deck of a tape recorder and having a reel gear and a reel disc, for generating a torque to adjust the tension of a magnetic tape, thereby controlling the running speed of the magnetic tape, wherein the reel clutch comprises:

a plate spring positioned between the reel gear and the reel disc; and

a stopper reel engaged with the reel disc to restrain the engaging height of the plate spring, so that the reel disc and the plate spring come into contact with each other to generate a torque by friction, the bottom surface of the reel disc being provided with serrations which are formed to be capable of coming into frictional contact with the plate spring.

3. (original) The reel clutch according to claim 1, wherein the plate spring comprises a plate body which is formed with one or more slits in a predetermined pattern so that the plate spring is freely elastically movable by an external pressure.

4. (original) The reel clutch according to claim 1, wherein lubricant is interposed between the reel disc and the plate spring.

5. (previously presented) A reel clutch of a tape recorder which is installed in a reel disc assembly mounted on a deck of a tape recorder and having a reel gear and a reel disc, for generating a torque to adjust the tension of a magnetic tape, thereby controlling the running speed of the magnetic tape, wherein the reel clutch comprises:

a plate spring positioned between the reel gear and the reel disc;

a stopper reel engaged with the reel disc to restrain the engaging height of the plate spring, so that the reel disc and the plate spring come into contact with each other to generate a torque by friction; and

a light receiver/emitter sensor,

wherein the reel gear has a plurality of sensing holes formed in the direction of rotation.

6. (original) The reel clutch according to claim 5, wherein:

the light receiver/emitter sensor is adapted to emit light toward the reel gear, and detect light that reflects from a surface of the reel gear and detect that light has not been reflected from the surface of the reel gear, when the light has passed through one or more of the plurality of sensing holes.

7. (canceled).

8. (previously presented) The reel clutch according to claim 1, wherein

an annular rib is formed on the lower surface of the reel disc to contact the outer rim of the plate spring.

9. (previously presented) The reel clutch according to claim 8, wherein the annular rib is serrated.

10. (previously presented) The reel clutch according to claim 1, wherein

the reel gear has an inner circumference with a plurality of locking protrusions formed thereon.

11. (previously presented) The reel clutch according to claim 10, wherein the plate spring is fit into the reel gear and is secured by the locking protrusions.

12. (previously presented) The reel clutch according to claim 1, further comprising: a light receiver/emitter sensor for detecting the rotational status of the reel gear.

13. (previously presented) The reel clutch according to claim 12, wherein the reel gear has a plurality of sensing holes for allowing light generated by the light receiver/emitter sensor to pass therethrough.

14. (new) A reel clutch of a tape recorder, which is installed in a reel disc assembly mounted on a deck of a tape recorder and having a reel gear and a reel disc, for generating a torque to adjust the tension of a magnetic tape, thereby controlling the running speed of the magnetic tape, wherein the reel clutch comprises:

a plate spring positioned between the reel gear and the reel disc, the plate spring having a central portion and an outer rim, the plate spring being secured into an inner circumference of the reel gear by a plurality of locking protrusions formed on the reel gear; and

a stopper reel engaged with the reel disc, the stopper reel urging the central portion of the plate spring upward, so that the reel disc and the outer rim of the plate spring come into contact with each other to generate a torque by friction.

15. (new) A reel clutch of a tape recorder, which is installed in a reel disc assembly mounted on a deck of a tape recorder and having a reel gear and a reel disc, for generating a torque to adjust the tension of a magnetic tape, thereby controlling the running speed of the magnetic tape, wherein the reel clutch comprises:

a plate spring positioned between the reel gear and the reel disc, the plate spring having a central portion and an outer rim; and

a stopper reel engaged with the reel disc, the stopper reel urging the central portion of the plate spring upward, so that the reel disc and the outer rim of the plate spring come into contact with each other to generate a torque by friction; and

a serrated annular rib formed on the lower surface of the reel disc to contact the outer rim of the plate spring.

16. (new) A reel clutch of a tape recorder, which is installed in a reel disc assembly mounted on a deck of a tape recorder and having a reel gear and a reel disc, for generating a torque to adjust the tension of a magnetic tape, thereby controlling the running speed of the magnetic tape, wherein the reel clutch comprises:

a plate spring positioned between the reel gear and the reel disc, the plate spring having a central portion and an outer rim;

a stopper reel engaged with the reel disc, the stopper reel urging the central portion of the plate spring upward, so that the reel disc and the outer rim of the plate spring come into contact with each other to generate a torque by friction; and

a light receiver/emitter sensor for detecting the rotational status of the reel gear, the reel gear having a plurality of sensing holes for allowing light generated by the light receiver/emitter sensor to pass therethrough.